## THE DAILY JOURNAL

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 1897. Washington Office--- 1503 Pennsylvania Avenu:

Telephone Calis. Susiness office ...... 238 | Editorial rooms ... A 8 TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION, DAILY BY MAIL Daily only, one month Daily only, three months

y, including Sunday, funday only, one year. WHEN FURNISHED BY AGENTS. Daily, per week, by carrier...... Daily and Sunday, per week, by carrier ..... 20 cts WEEKLY. Reduced Rates to Clubs. Subscribe with any of our numerous agents send subscriptions to the

JOURNAL NEWSPAPER COMPANY, Indianapolis, Ind. Persons sending the Journal through the mails in the United States should put on an eight-page paper a ONE-CENT postage stamp; on a twelve or sixteen-page paper a TWO-CENT postage

Foreign postage is usually double these

All communications intended for publication this paper must, in order to receive attention, led by the name and address of the

# THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL

Can be found at the following places: NEW YORK-Windsor Hotel and Astor House CHICAGO-Palmer House and P. O. News Co. CINCINNATI-J. R. Hawley & Co., 154 Vir LOUISVILLE-C. T. Deering, northwest corne of Third and Jefferson streets, and Louisville ok Co., 256 Fourth avenue.

ST. LOUIS-Union News Company, Union Depot WASHINGTON, D. C.-Riggs House, Ebbitt House, Willard's Hotel and the Washington News Exchange, Fourteenth street, between Penn, avenue and F street.

Even the free-trade papers in the East admit that the Republicans will have votes enough to pass a tariff bill.

to compel the President-elect to take their favorites whether he will or not. If the United States can get \$45,000,000

Many excellent persons seem determined

and the sinking fund for its interest in the will be well rid of a troublesome matter.

When a silver mine baron, like Senator undertakes to make a demonstration in Washington, he shows that he has the great wealth necessary to make the most brilliant exhibit of opulence that has been witnessed the present session.

Senator Lee Mantle, of Montana, who acts with the silverites, declares that he opposed to any effort to obstruct tariff leg-Islation. Evidently, the senator has ascertained that there are more thousands people interested in other industries than in the production of silver bullion.

The Journal has strongly condemned the threat of certain senators to oppose the arbitration treaty because of personal hostility to President Cleveland, but if they should do so it would be a kind of retribution. The foreign policy of Mr. Cleveland's administration was inaugurated by his first secretary of state on a basis of personal

There seems to be quite a movement in Wisconsin and Minnesota in the direction of sugar-beet culture with a view to the manufacture of sugar. It has been demonstrated that the crop is much more certain and much more profitable than wheat. What has proved so great a success in France and Germany can be repeated in

The statement of Mr. Lyman J. Gage, of Chicago, leaves no doubt that he would accept the position of secretary of the treasury if it should be offered him. Mr. Gage's statement is entirely dignified and does not put him in the attitude of seeking the position, though, like a business man, he says frankly that if it were tendered him would not feel at liberty to decline it. If he appointed the country would have every reason to feel that the management of national finances was in very

cases should be radically changed. Under the present law many of the criminal cases great expense of the taxpayers, who are and defense. Not the least of the abuses wanted or not. The fees charged are often outrageous and never moderate.

The New York Press advises Congress to suspend the warehouse privilege. There is every reason why this should be done during a period when tariffs are changing. When the Gorman bill became law it refuced duties materially upon all the higher grades of goods competing with home manwent into effect the warehouses were filled mcrchandise. Now, on the prospect of a duty on wool, merchants are reto make a large profit, which into the United States treasury, The government warehouse should not be used to transfer what should be revenues into the pockets of individuals.

William J. Bryan made the "round-up" of his campaign for free silver in Chicago, decity up to the last hour that enabled him organizations of the city are appealing to poor. They say that never before was there cago as there is at present. . The number of require relief is estimated at 8,fessional beggars. They are the families of honest workingmen, mechanics, clerks and persons of small means dependent on daily or weekly wages for a livelihood. In ordinarily good times they would have emand be able to make a good living, but they are victims of the tariff-reform agitation and panic of 1893, suppleagitation and panic of 1896. The political many factories and an unparalleled prostraituation of these unfortunate peom J. Bryan contributed his full but he will not contribute anytheir relief. That will be done should be done promptly and liberally, by those who opposed Bryan.

The suggestion of Mr. Eckels, controller rrency, regarding State legislation good business management and progress. in two circuits the average population to villa near Lucerne with her husband, Chev- The Gazette is right, only it does not go a man of good executive ability and have The controller is authorized to incorporate each would be 21,830. The unit seems to

but he can only obtain such information tion of State laws. His official jurisdiction is limited to national banks. To obtain the other information he suggests that the legvate banks to report at the same time and in the same manner as national banks. As the information would be beneficial to the 8.00 | public his suggestion will probably be acted .. 2.00 upon.

THE CITY SCHOOL QUESTION.

The question of our city school govern-

apolis that will come before the Legislature.

The case is put in this way because it seems inevitable that the subject will come before the Legislature either in a proposition to change the mode of school government or in one for financial relief, or possibly both. The time has come when some thing must be done, not only for present financial relief, but looking to the future maintenance of the school standard and the city's credit. Whether any change in the form of school government shall be made or not, steps must be taken to provide for wiping out the present indebtedness, preventing the accumulation of more and meeting the current expenses of the schools in the near future, including new buildings and a material extension of school accommodations. The Journal is of opinion that the present board and its predecessors have acted unwisely in pursuing a policy of school expansion at the cost of a constantly increasing debt, but it recognizes the fact that they were encompassed by difficulties not of their own making. The present debt is really a heritage and accumulation of more than twenty years, during all of which period the growth of the schools has outrun the growth of revenue. No doubt the expansion has been too great on some experimental and expensive lines, but as the net result has been head of all the policy cannot be said to have entirely failed. Perhaps the people would have been better contented with ering the restricted revenue, it is not certain that the same results could have been accomplished without creating debt. Nor is it certain that any other form of government or mode of selecting the School Board would have yielded better results. The whole question at present resolves itself into one of finance. The schools are here and must be maintained. The debt 1886 to \$23,000 in 1896, must be reduced and purchase of books. For many years past provision must be made for providing new tion by the Legislature, and the subject can not be brought before that body too soon

### INCREASE OF COURTS AND COURT EXPENSES.

Several bills have been introduced in the

Legislature to create new judicial circuits, This is not an exceptional thing; on the contrary, it is the usual custom. There has many years in which some new circuits have not been created, involving, of course, new judges and prosecutors with salaries, additional court fees and expenses, and not always any benefit to the public. During the last twenty years the number of Circuit Courts has increased from forty-three to fifty-seven, and at the same time the Apperior Courts have been created. In 1877 the appropriation for salaries of forty-three circuit judges was \$107,500; in 1895 the appropriation for fifty-seven judges was \$138,000. The increase is owing to the increased number of circuits, the salary of a in 1877. The appropriation for the salaries of prosecuting attorneys in 1877, at \$500 a It is very certain that the laws relative rate, it was \$27,500. This represents only a small part of what they draw from the connected with the matter is the employ- extent. Certainly the law's delays have not | volved in the article which provides for an ment of lawyers outside the county to par- been lessened, and justice is not adminis- artibration tribunal, of which the King of field. Denominational colleges will attend to build a graded school building and mainticipate in the defense of criminals whether | tered any more promptly or satisfactorily | Sweden shall be the umpire. On the other | to that.-Madison Courier. State, and, judging from the increasing Court, with five judges, amounting pracmaterially relieved the congestion in the reduction of taxation and the cost of local government and courts, the Legislature ought not to create any more judicial circuits and salaried officers unless it is plainly required by public interests. Of the bills now pending to create new circuits possibly some of them are opposed by local papers tests against the proposed transfer of Perry with a hint that one of the present circuits paper writing from Portland protests very strongly against the bill which proposes to

create two judicial circuits out of the present Twenty-sixth, composed of the counties of Adams and Jay. Among other things

What necessity is there for a new circuit in these counties? Absolutely none. The udicial work of Adams county can easily e done in eighty days in any one year, and n Jay county it can be done in one hundred and twenty days. At present Adams ounty has one hundred and twenty court days in each year, and Jay county has one hundred and forty-four court days in each year. Each county has four terms per year, and from six to ten days are wasted each term by reason of the laziness, obstinacy and carelessness of the lawyers.

The Journal does not indorse or adopt these statements, because it is not sufficiently conversant with the facts, but it shows there is local opposition to the proposed

against these proposed new circuits are well founded or not, but it does know that public sentiment and the temper of the times are opposed to any increase in the islature pass a law requiring State and pri- | cost of any department of government that is not absolutely necessary. The situation in Jay county seems to be one that ought to make its taxpayers oppose any unnecessary increase of expenses. The correspondent already quoted says:

> In the case of Jay county the taxes are already from 2 to 4 per cent. The commissioners have just completed a new county asylum at a cost of \$23,615; a new jail is absolutely essential, and must soon be built, and which will cost from \$40,000, to \$80,000; an addition to the courthouse must be built within the next few years to accommodate the public records, which will cost from \$50,000 to \$100,000, and the present indebtedness of the county is above \$160,000. These are sufficient reasons for opposing a new judicial circuit unless there are stronger public reasons in favor of

### THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

The Library of Congress, which will soon occupy the magnificent new building provided for it, has grown to enormous dimensions. A statement sent to Congress a few days ago by Librarian Spofford says that the new building must accommodate at once 740,000 volumes, 250,000 pamphlets, about 300,000 unsound periodicals, the Smithsonian scientific library of 100,000 volumes, the Towne library of 30,000 volumes and many pamphlets and periodicals, 200,000 copyrighted medical compositions, an tensive collection of works of graphic art, works, a vast collection of maps of every description, another of charts, illustrating all departments of scientific instruction and requiring much space, and a collection of manuscripts acquired with the historical library of Peter Force and from other sources. This represents the present contents of the library, which is constantly quests, and by the operation of the copyright law, which requires a copy of every book, pamphlet, or map copyrighted in the United States to be deposited in the library. The original library was commenced in 1800, but was destroyed with the Capitol in 1814, during the war with England. Its next beginning was by the purchase by Congress of ex-President Thomas Jefferson's library, embracing about 7,000 volumes. This was done partly as a means of relieving Jefferson from financial straits. In 1851 the liis created and must be either paid at ma- brary contained 55,000 volumes, but by a turity or funded. The annual interest ac- | fire in that year lost all but 20,000 volumes. count, which has increased from \$10,000 in In 1852 Congress appropriated \$75,000 for the there has been an annual appropriation of school buildings and tuition for the increas- about \$11,000 for the purchase of new works ing population. To do this will require ac- and occasional appropriations for special purposes. The library now ranks among the greatest in the world, and the new library building will far surpass any other in beauty, magnificence and artistic adornment. The library is open to everybody for the purposes of reading and consultation, but only members of Congress and a limited number of government officials can take away books. At present, in addition not been a session of the Legislature for | to the librarian there are employed fortytwo assistants and clerks, and in the new quarters the number will be more than

NO CAUSE FOR HASTE. Senator Hoar was right in criticising the mpulsive and unreflecting sentiment which demands the unhesitating and immediate ratification of the arbitration treaty. There is no occasion for haste. A better Senate than the present will be in Washington after March 4. When the first statements were made regarding the provisions of the treaty there was a general impulse to ratify it because the people of this country desire to pursue a policy which will insure the security and confidence of assured peace. As soon, however, as the treaty was published several conservative lawyers who are familiar with the subject to which the treaty relates expressed doubts as to the Tracy, for instance, a very conservative man and able lawyer, regards the treaty as the last twenty years has added materially | being one-sided. Ex-Senator Edmunds, who is one of the best authorities in this countating court proceedings to any material | try, holds that the Monroe doctrine is inthan it was when there were not more than | hand the State Department holds that any half as many circuits, and when half as question affecting the Monroe doctrine many judges dispensed law for the entire | must be determined under another article

For this reason alone the treaty should

Already several Legislatures have passed

# ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

The estate of the late Shah of Persia is valued at \$200,000,000, of which two-fifths is in cash and bullion. It is rumored that his successor will devote \$20,000,000 to ad-

vancing the civilization of Persia. Sardou was an adept in spiritualism in his younger days and much interested in all the mysteries of the occult. In later years he put away such pursuits for more material things, but now he is said to be about to utilize some of his old studies in a drama. General Gourko, the noted Russian soldier, formerly governor general of Warsaw, is seriously ill. About two years ago he suffered from a stroke of apoplexy, which compelled him to resign his post at Warsaw. He is sixty-nine years old and

holds the rank of field marshal. Frances E. Brant left her school in Ohio twelve years ago and invested the money farm. To-day she owns 2,500 acres of good land. For six years she has been a preacher, and for two years the pastor of the Universalist Church at Hutchinson, Kan.

The famous American prima donna, Min-

in his annual report information relative to | small to justify the cost of maintaining an | tinguished traveler and writer of books of travels, and is not, like so many husbands of prima donnas, dependent upon his wife's

> Dr. Calot's claim that he can cure hunchbacks-or at least that he can greatly benefit such spinal troubles in children-has made more or less of a sensation in French medical circles. Large wadded bandages plaster casts and other apparatus are used, and about ten months are consumed in ef-

It is said that a nephew of Charles Dickens is an engineer on the Illinois Central Railroad, and is living in La Salle, Ill. His father was Augustus N. Dickens, a younger brother of the novelist, who came to this country about 1850 and became an employe of the railroad. He lived in Chicago for

Miss Helen Gladstone, who for so long has been associated with the direction and management of Newnham College, at Cambridge, has now severed her connection with that institution in order to devote herself entirely to the venerable ex-premier and to her mother during the limited time which that remarkable couple can reasonably expect to remain with their family. Charles Maron, who lately died in Paris, claimed descent from the poet Virgil. Reg-

There is always a great deal of talk in favor of economy before elections. The peoin Mantua, the poet's native town, who bore the name of Maro, the poet's patronymic ple want to see it practiced after elections sent greeting to Maron, whom they regarded as first and greatest of them all Maron was a man of letters, especially well up in the history of French architecture

and sculpture.

died some time ago in Paris, leaving a fortune of \$600,000, had one extraordinary diversion. She used to have herself wheeled about the town of Mary-sur-Marne in a wheelbarrow, to the intense delight of the small boys of the place, who acted as her bodyguard. She used to make her gardener count all his fruit daily, and one of her whims was to have fresh vine leaves put on her statues of gods and goddesses every morning. Now her will is being contested

The Rev. Charles E. Stowe, the only surviving son of Harriet Beecher Stowe, writes to the Hartford Courant in regard to letters received by him from various admirers of his mother concerning the erection memory. He says that he and his sisters regard it as their exclusive privilege to erect a monument over their mother's grave at Andover, and suggests that if anything is to be done by his mother's admirers to honor her memory it should take the form of a Harriet Beecher Stowe know, be quite in keeping with my mother's taste, and far more useful to man and honoring to God than some brazen monstrosity, scowling the unfortunate beholder out of countenance from its ugly granite pedes-

Dame fortune differs not so much From other girls, I find In fact, she's but a sister to The rest of womankind. Few favors she will lavish on The chap who kneels to tell His wants, while he who steals a kiss

Gets many smiles as well. -Chicago Journal. Just a little sunshine, Just a little rain; Just a little freeze-up-Then a little pain: Dent upon the pavement Marks the cold, hard spot Where your trousers rested-Where your feet were not. -Grand Rapids Free Press.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR. The Thin Lady. "She looks like a picture." "Reminds me more of a frame."

Squelch Him. Now let us hang the arrant lout, Without recourse to law, Who dares to breathe a word about "This January thaw."

At the Gas Office. "Why don't you turn on the gas?" asked

"Daren't," said the first clerk. any one comes in to kick; we can tell him we are suffering as much as he is."

Watts-I see that Sam Jones said that hell was within half a mile of Boston, while he was in that city. I remember his saying the same thing of Chicago, when there. Potts-The statements are not contradictory. Perhaps he means to convey the idea that hell is never more than half a mile from Sam Jones.

# INDIANA NEWSPAPER OPINION.

It would cause a most agreeable sensation among the taxpayers of Indiana should the Legislature pass a measure to reduce taxation. It would be akin to realizing the dawn of the millennium .- Muncie Times. One of the chief results of the general educational bill now before the Legislature would be to increase the attendance of the State Normal School at the expense of all the colleges in the State. Such a discrimination is unfair, unjust and not in line with educational progress in the State. Seymour Republican.

Taxation for public schools is right and proper, but it is time to lop off the State University excrescences. They are not warranted by the Constitution nor justified by the needs of the people. Indiana can well

law could only be passed and enforced, there might be some prospects of a future revival of the glorious sport of angling, which may otherwise become almost a lost art in Indiana.-Mishawaka Enterprise. It is to be hoped that the Legislature will

push to final passage the bill for the creation of a revision board to reform the methods of county and township business. The crudities and inconsistencies of these local governments have been a great expense to the State, and the best way to reform it all is through the commission plan.-Richmond

In the matter of building and loan legislation this winter the General Assembly, in its zeal to do something, should be careful not to pass laws that will cripple such associations as do an honorable and legitimate business. Something is needed to put a stop to all "skin" concerns and to proect the depositors in all associations. -Middletown News.

An agreement as to the value of insurthe limit of endurance, realizing enormous profits, as has been done in Indiana, then there is a trust that should be smashed. We hope the Legislature will probe the insurance trust to the quick .- New Castle

ntroduced in the Legislature. They are of all kinds, from good to bad and indifferent, from highly important to utterly worthless and foolish. Not one bill in twenty deserves discussion, much less passage, "Indefinitely postponed" is the fate that most of them deserve to have written on their backs. A few laws are badly needed, but these can be counted on the fingers .- Fair-

ness in this State. In most of the cities town meet together and fix what is called a board rate. They fix an arbitrary rate and stick to it. It is nothing more than a rates up. This is not fair and the Legislature should see that every company should be allowed to do business independent of a board or trust .- Columbus Republican. As usual, the legislative hopper in the State Capitol is full of proposed new laws, one Our folks have no fault to find with Lagrange people-they are good neighbors-

thing, and if their wishes in the premises are respected, it will not be consummated. The Fort Wayne Gazette is in favor of nie Hauk, is living quietly at her beautiful the election of city officers on the off year. months is bad. A county superintende should have educational qualifications,

but the absence of direct rallway communi-

cation between the two county seats ren-

treme. Neither the people nor the business

interests of either county want any such

cers should be elected at times when there vidual separately. Such a law would soon | the more people you get int result in selecting local officers for the abil- thing the more general wil ity and not on the tariff question of electing a town clerk because he favors free homesteads in Oklahoma.—Decatur Journal.

This Legislature is expected to pass some building and loan legislation which will protect the depositors in the State institutions from officers who use up the profits in fat salaries. The idea that a depositor should draw of an association a sum of money considerably less than he has paid into the association does not strike people generally as very good business methods Yet this is exactly what some of these large associations have done. They have had the ise of the money for several months and in these cases have not only declined to pay back all that was paid in, but have charged a good big share of the principal for taking care of the deposits. Some legislation should be enacted which will make impossible such stealing even when done under the cover of by-laws .- Seymour Republican, Governor Mount declares that the Tol-

leston Gun Club smacks altogether too much of landed aristocracy, and that its existence as at present is inimical to our democratic form of government. He further avers that if the poachers who were shot down for no more serious offense than bewere discovered on wardens Governor's views are shared by 99 per cent. of law-abiding citizens in State. The outrages against law and order Mlle. Borniche, an eccentric old lady who | which have been committed there in years past have been equal to those in the early days of Deadwood. A more murderous gang of men never infested the borders of Indiana than many of those who have been employed by this "landed aristocracy."

-Hammond Tribune. The people of Indianapolis have asked the street-railroad company to pave between the tracks, to make repairs, to give lower rates, to pay for the privilege it enjoys, but all these requests have been refused, the company insolently replying that its charter is perpetual, and it will do as it pleases. Indianapolis has her own municipal problems to solve, but when one of them is the cause for a disgraceful attack on the decency of the State, it becomes of interest to the State. The lobby now at work should be driven from the Legislature, If the company has arguments to make against the bill, let them be put before the legislative committee in an honorable and open manner, but let \$16,000,000 invested in property devoted exthere be nothing that shall savor of corruption or undue influence. The Indiana Legislature should be no place for a monscholarship at Hampton, Fiske or Tuske- eyed lobby, acting in behalf of a corporation whose motives are selfish:-Lafayette Courier

> A bill has been introduced by Senator White which cuts Perry county off from the Second judicial circuit and tacks it on to the Third. He supports his bill by a few statistics as to wealth and population, which, however, have no bearing on the question. It may be that Crawford and Harrison are not large enough to have a judge all to themselves; but that does not prove that Spencer, Warrick and Perry are too large. This county is entitled to eleven weeks of court. She rarely has more than six weeks of actual session. We do not think the work is piling up in this circuit because there is not time to dispose of cases. It is true that it is generally from one to three years before a trial is reached. but this is on account of continuance. One judge can handle the Second judicial circuit with ease. If the Third is rattling for lack of grist, tack on some other county and do away with one circuit.-Cannelton En-

The legislative committee on county and township business has made a favorable report on Representative Roots's bill to regulate the expenditures in the office of township trustees, after having killed several other bills on the same subject. bill provides for quarterly reports to the county commissioners, but does not provide for giving the people an opportunity to see them. It makes it unlawful for a trustee to overdraw any one of his accounts and provides that he shall not issue a warrant on any fund in his possession in excess of \$50. In the matter of reports this bill simply returns to the old and much-abused method, while the limitation features will no doubt work many unnecessary hardships on the townships. The people are entitled to see these reports, and as their promulgation in some form can be provided for at a small cost, we believe it to be the duty of the lawmakers to proceed along these lines.-Connersville News.

# TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOLS.

### An Experienced Man Objects to Some Features of the Geeting Bill.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: The educational bill now before the Legislature, as presented by State Superintendent Geeting and the State Teachers' Association, is worthy of attention. Section 1 follows the present law closely until it strikes the township high school. It says the trustee shall establish township graded schools in each township in the State, while the present law says he "may," etc. Now, if this bill were to become law it would work a hardship to a great many townships. There is a township or two in this county that are too small to support a all his graded school and the township in which | years' credits, and shown his capacity as a the city of Rushville is situated the trustee can and does send his high school scholars to the city school, paying their tuition out of the special school fund. It is much cheaper for the taxpayers for him to pay afford to go out of the higher education | the tuition to the city school than it is now receives, under the law, a certificate of tain a township graded school. I claim it is good business sense for a township trus- It relieves no graduate from county exama township graded school and maintaining the same, hence I claim that the trustees of the State are better qualified to judge out of fuel furnished by the dear public. our own horse and buggy, leaving our wives at home, who have to answer from one to forty calls a day, while we are carrying out the orders of these men. I claim the present law is of sufficient elasticity to meet all high school demands made on the

> of Education may direct the course of study from time to time, taking it out of the hands of the county board. I object to this for the same reason I do to the building of the house. I wish to submit some figures and facts that have come under my observation since I have been trustee, as to high school work and its relation to the common schools of the township. I have two graded high schools, of three teachers, in my township. We have two years of high each. school township \$165 per month: for six months they cost the township \$990. This gives a cost to the township of about \$3 per month per scholar, or \$18 per scholar for the school year. A part of these scholars had not got up to the two years of high school work, or, in other words, we to put seven and eight-year scholars in these two high school rooms to make up a sufficient number of scholars, and pay the above high price for doing seven and eight years' work, whereas, we were getting the seven and eight years taught in the district school for very much less, \$40 \$30, with one exception. At the close of the school year, March 4, 1896, from both graded schools there were eighteen gradtownships and Fayette county adjoining. Some of the pupils from adjoining territory paid tuition and some were transferred. total enumeration for the school year 1895 and 1896 was 325. This gives one in eighteen that graduated in the two-year high school work. townships of Noble and Washington the rate of two-year high school graduates is less in proportion to the total enumeration of this township; so taxpayers will see they will cost under the proposed bill can only be surmised. I am in favor of a certain amount of high school work, but am in favor of the

people and the trustees of each township in the State, as the present law directs, settling it for themselves, together with the County Board of Education. This Section I does away with Section 4444 of the present law, under which we have a great number of decisions of the Supreme Court ders the proposition objectionable in the exbe done away with and would compel us to get new opinions whenever a controversy arose, which would save time and money There are some good features in the new bill. The making a license granted in one county good in any county in the State is alier Von Hesse Wartegg, who is a dis- far enough. All town, city or county offi- not less than three years of practical

school work. The bill, as a whole, has too is neither State nor national elections, and | much of a centralizing tendency; seeks to the ballots should be so prepared that the refer too many things to the State Board voter would be obliged to vote for each indi- of Education. It is a well-known fact that ted in anythe good. people, by If we have a government for the people and of the people a us have

consistent as many people interested as . G. W. LOONEY, Jr., Trustee. Rushville, Jan. 23.

## TEACHERS' LICENSES.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal:

President Parsons Responds to th Criticism of President Fisher.

In your issue of the 21st inst. appeared short article by D. W. Fisher, president of principle of civil service. Hanover College, in which attention is called to the alleged injustice of granting diplomas to graduates of the Indiana State Normal School, which are equivalent State licenses, I do not wish to enter into any controversy with President Fisher over this subject, but I cannot allow to go unchallenged and uncorrected a number of his statements, President Fisher's first sentence contains three distinct errors of fact. He says: "At present life licenses are issued to graduates of the State Normal; that murderers pure and simple. The is, to men and women who, as a rule, have had little experience as teachers, and who, besides this, have spent in the Normal the short time required for graduation." It is not true that graduation from the State Normal School entitles any person to a life license. It is not true that graduates of the State Normal School, as a rule, have had little experience as teachers. As a rule they have had several years' experience, and, in many cases, from five to ten years. It is not true that a short time only is required for graduation. A period of four years of lien law, and that is through a properly full forty weeks each is required, except in the case of persons entitled to advanced reputable institutions. A graduate of Han- | chances of loss. The bond must be in over College could not graduate from the State Normal School until he had done one full year's strictly professional work. business of educating her youth. She has

> clusively to purposes of common school education; she has 750,000 children of school age; 14,000 teachers are teaching in her common schools, and this common school work is carried on at an expense of \$6,000,000 per year. No other branch of the public service is comparable with this in importance, extent and expense. Realizing the imperative necessity for a body of professionally trained teachers for these elementary schools, the State, in 1865, enacted a law creating a State Normal School for the purpose of "preparing teachers for teache ing in the common schools of Indiana." The State Normal School, therefore, is the State's school, organized, maintained and conducted by the State as a part of the State's common school system and for a specific and necessary purpose. It is supported wholly by the State; the conditions of admission, the course of study and the entire management of the school in every way and in every detail are prescribed by law, or are determined by a board of trustees appointed under the statute which organized the school. I will state some of the conditions under which the State Normal School is at work "preparing teachers for teaching in the common schools of Indiana," and the public can then judge whether the granting of life licenses by this institution is well guarded by law.

The statute requires that, to be admitted, ersons if males must be eighteen years, if in the common schools of Indiana twice as ong as they enjoy the privileges of the school. By an established rule of the trustees entering students must be graduates of uates of commissioned high schools, hold some grade of county license of not less than one year, pass entrance examinations equivalent to those required for a oneyear's license. The course of study is four years long. It is organized to meet the needs of persons who are preparing to teach in the common schools of Indiana. No other persons are admitted to the school: no others would wish to pursue the profescourse for common-school teachers. It is as distinctively professional as the course in a law school or a medical school. Every subject pursued is studied from the teacher's point of view, from the beginning of is a long line of instruction which is in an especial and peculiar sense professional. It includes an extended study of educational psychology, theory of the school, the prinriples of method in school work and the history and philosophy of education. In addition, the school supports an extensive system of training schools, in which students, before they can graduate, are required to observe and interpret the work done. They must also demonstrate their ability to teach

in these training schools, which are under the control and direction of skilled critic Further, the law requires that a compe tent board of school officials shall be apinted every term by the State Board of Education to inspect carefully the work of the school and report thereon. The school is under the direction of the State at every point and in every way. At the end of four years' study, when the student has passed aminations and made his four teacher, it would seem as if he ought to be cerse before he can graduate. The student inations. Under the law, again, the graduate must teach two years after graduatmatter if he entered the Normal School a and, he must present satisfactory testimonials from competent school officials to the and managed successfully for a period of less than two years. When all these conditions have been fully met, the diploma is granted and this is equivalent to a life icense to teach in Indiana, and I am glad to be able to say that it is recognized by many other States of the Union. hardly seems "a short cut to life licenses by way of the State Normal School," know of no other state that imposes such severe conditions, and of no other class in Indiana is so much exacted. If Hanover College or any other institu-

tion in the State will submit to state control and inspection as fully as the State Normal School is required by law to do then it would be entitled to the same privileges. The State Board of Education is authorized by law to issue life licenses to persons of given experience and who pass certain examinations. The examinations last two days. The average of all the grades made need not exceed 75 per cent. and in any subject the applicant may fall as low as 60 per cent. With the single exception of the science of education every subject on which the applicant for a life license is examined is to be found in the ordinary college course. In the case of the competent college graduate who has taught the required time and wishes a life license, would not this examination be in reality a 'short cut to a life license?"

Whether the long course of professional training given by the State Normal, with the required period of successful experience after graduation should entitle to a life license, may fairly be debated; but any proposition to ignore professional training s essential to the work of the public school teacher should be condemned. It would be to reverse the course of the world's educational progress during the last half cen-W. W. PARSONS.

### Terre Haute, Ind., Jan. 23. State Vs. Nonstate Schools,

what the high schools are costing. What been in existence a number of years, never having received a dollar from church or state. The young men and women educated or, in fact, for support of any kind. It is they know they could get life teachers' license without examination by going to a cannot readily be obtained from regular state school, yet they prefer the schools | trust or loaning companies. Let us have an they now attend and expect to secure the enactment by the Legislature where the life license by examination. Some have left | people's savings can be well managed and for the State school, saying they fear the secure, and honest associations and people examinations, but the majority remain, will join in calling down blessings upon it. These students do not attend nonstate

schools because of any superficiality, for they know they must do this work well. Three years' work in some of these schools has admitted students to the junior year of the seven years' classical course of the Indiana University

The State board now appeals to the Legislature for more power. Already the State institutions have the influence of this organization in their behalf, yet thousands are in attendance upon other institutions, and now they ask that no man in the State shall have part or lot in the great work of educating the young of the State until he has the official indorsement of this board. We ask for no favors; we only ask to be let alone in our work of educating the young without charge to the State. We do not ask that the State board put its brand upon our graduates without examination. only ask that our graduates are allowed fair competitive examinations along with graduates from the State schools, on the chools give over to the world their year's product of graduates and don't ask for a dollar. Let the State pay the State schools the tens of thousands, but let other schools have a fair chance in the way of competitive examinations, Again, if the State board demands more power, and will use it in behalf of State schools as against self-supporting schools, then we shall claim our right to representation on said board. Angola, Ind., Jan. 23. L. M. SNIFF.

### MECHANICS' LIEN LAW

Suggestions for Remedying the Injustice It Causes.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal I have seen in the Journal some communications in regard to the lien law. Those which I have noticed make a record of individual experience. It appears to me that the general experience of an architect gives a large number of facts and a variety of incidents from which to draw. So far as I know, there is just one way to protect oneself from liability to loss under the prepared bond which provides for attorney fees and other provisions growing out of standing by reason of work done in other | building operations. Then there are many proper form; it must be properly executed; the titles to property owned by the bondsmen must at least be partially abstracted at Indiana is engaged very extensively in the the beginning of and the close of the contract; then the validity of the bond itself must be properly guarded during the progress of the work. It is quite possible that through some bit of carelessness or want of knowledge on the part of the owner that certainties which surround the one safe means of procedure in building under the

existing lien law. The payment of bills by the owner is not protection. He cannot know when they are all paid. The contractor may so manage the work or so figure it that a loss is certain, in which event the owner pays the bills. The contractor, instead of receiving a special credit from subcontractors, may receive a general credit on account. The integrity of the contractor is not a guarantee against loss. His contract with his subcontractors may be inadequate or incomplete. The general contractor may have it in mind that he is making a subcontract or getting a subbid from the subcontractor when he is getting only a partial proposition. In event of disagreement the lien may be flied and the owner pays the bills, attorney fees and all.

The public has suffered in another way The number of general contractors in this city and State who have any business standing at all is small indeed. A very few only have made money and saved it Large numbers of them have been practifemales sixteen; they must agree to teach | cally exhausted financially under the influences of the lien law. With the present law there is no one who pretends to take contracts, none so incapable, careless or irregular but that his credit is not as good standard colleges maintaining full college and who cannot buy material as cheaply courses of not less than four years, grad- as his more capable or more honorable competitor. It is this kind of competition which has ruined many good contractors, and deprived the community of their best service without corresponding benefits. In fact, all of the results growing out of the law have been on the wrong side of the ledger to the community at large. A great deal of incapacity on the part of the general contractors is estimated as dishonesty. I believe that the number who really start sional course of the Normal School. It is a out to do the wrong thing in building is much less than is supposed. Most of the trouble is brought about from absolute lack of business capacity. A good carpenter at the bench cannot assume to be a good business man. The fact that a man who can the course to the end. Besides this, there do work and do it well does not necessarily mean that he can estimate its value when done by others. The lien law has enabled the incapable and all to rush into the contracting business with good credit, and the public are the sufferers through the character of the work done and the financial loss which follows. The subcontractor and the material man

should be required to protect themselves like any one else who has material or labor to sell. If a bond is to be executed, let it and manage a school by extended practice | be made from the contractor to the material man. Certainly the idea that the owner, inexperienced in building operations, should stand in between the subcontractor and loss is unjust. Even where the contractor is perfectly responsible the owner is liable to get pinched for attorney fees in litigation between the subcontractors and general contractors. I know of a case where the general contractor is a man of large means, yet the owner is put to the necessity of protecting himself in a triangular fight. If there is anything more iniquitous, any more unjust than this lien law, I do not know what it is. Most of the genallowed to graduate. But not so. By a rule | eral contractors in this city are being of the board of trustees he is required to ground to powder by it, and do not appear submit to another test. He must take an to have spirit enough to get together and examination under a county superintend- make themselves felt in the matter. They ent and secure a valid two-years' county li- talk about it all of the time when the Legislature is not in session, and then crawl into their holes and close up for the winter. graduation, not a life license, as President | A compromise in this matter which would Fisher erroneously states. This certificate save a great deal of trouble would be to building, and to require the material men writing previous to delivery of material or the execution of work by him on the build-Then allow him sixty days within which to file his lien. This gives the owner a fighting chance, while at present he has practically none at all. An architect, because of his training and experience, suffers no anxiety from the law.

willing to allow it to stand as it is. But, the other hand, the large amount of building that is done is by those who do not employ an architect, and who least of all can afford the iniquitous losses which this law brings with it.

### Indianapolis, Jan. 23 Building and Loan Legislation.

ing and loan associations, should keep in mind that their business is to particularly originated in their need of ald in securing homes. It should not be forgotten that mittee in the last Legislature as impelled a searching inquiry, on which they are expected to form a just law. This law should be so framed as to make it impossible to sive measure. The average investor or borassociations. So there must be certainty of immunity from past impositions to insure the confidence that will bring to this business the clientage the State seeks to protect, and who have been driven out, never to return, unless the protection is given. The time of greatest popularity of these insmall expense. Just as soon as there develple lost confidence. Much of the profits and part of the principal was absorbed in big salaries. These operations, under one guise or another, have completely destroyed the legitimate operations of some of these conis had the Legislature will no sooner have

Another and important reason for protecting the people and encouraging the legitimany who desire to build homes, with a fixed confidence in their stability, will be tions, and in a small way means to this end

Indianapolis, Jan. 23. PROTECTION.

adjourned than scheming attorneys and

others will set to work to defeat the op-